

COUNTRY Eastern Germany

REPORT NO.

TOPIC Military Shipments in the Stendal Area

EVALUATION 25X1 PLACE OBTAINED 25X1

DATE OF CONTENT 20 to 24 September 1952

DATE OBTAINED 25X1 DATE PREPARED 10 October 1952

REFERENCES 25X1

PAGES 3 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS 25X1

25X1 1. Military shipments observed in the Stendal (M 53/Y 85) area during the period from 20 to 24 September 1952 included:

20 September. At 6 a.m., a train of about 120 axles loaded with motor vehicles, proceeding through Stendal in the direction of Gardelegen.

At 11 a.m., a train with 15 factory new unnumbered trucks passing through Stendal toward Wismar;

25X1 at noon, a train loaded with 25 motor vehicles, engineer equipment and pontoons as well as some guns observed at the Stendal railroad station.

25X1 In the night of 20 September, 10 troop trains passing through Stendal toward Gardelegen and Wittenberge.

21 September. At 5 a.m., a train carrying motor vehicles, pontoons and engineer equipment was being unloaded at the Haemmerlen (M 53/Y 85) railroad station;

25X1 at 6:30 a.m., a train of 10 boxcars loaded with personnel

25X1 and an undetermined number of flatcars loaded with 5 T-34 tanks.

25X1 kitchens

25X1

25X1

at 7:30 a.m., a train of 120 axles loaded with motor vehicles

25X1 and some flatcars with sides loaded with pontoons, proceeding through Stendal toward Wittenberge and Gardelegen;

25X1 at 8 a.m., a train consisting of 10 boxcars carrying troops

25X1 and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 15 T-34 tanks,

25X1 vehicles passing through the Stendal railroad station and proceeding in the direction of Wittenberge-Gardelegen;

SECRET

25X1

- 2 -

at 9:40 a.m., a troop train of 100 axles, including 10 boxcars occupied by personnel, 6 flatcars with sideracks, each occupied by two artillery pieces with muzzle brakes and other flatcars carrying 25 vehicles

25X1 proceeding through Stendal in the direction of Gardelegen and Wittenberge.

22 September. At 2:30 a.m., a troop train consisting of an undetermined number of flatcars loaded with 16 T-34 tanks, 12 motor vehicles towing artillery pieces, and 1 boxcar carrying troops, which was unloaded in Schoenhausen at 5:30 a.m., coming from Stendal.

At 6 a.m., three troop trains were seen at the Stendal railroad station;

at 6:05 a.m., a train consisting of 25 flatcars with sideracks, carrying radio trucks passed through the Stendal railroad station;

at 6:40 a.m., a troop train loaded with 25 motor vehicles

5 T-34 tanks, 24 light artillery pieces and 2 field kitchens passed through the Stendal railroad station, proceeding in the direction of Gardelegen;

at 9:15 a.m., a troop train consisting of 3 boxcars carrying troops and an undetermined number of flatcars loaded with

16 T-34 tanks, 3 motor vehicles and 2 field kitchens passing through Stendal and proceeding in the direction of Schoenhausen;

at 9:30 a.m., a troop train loaded with 9 T-34 tanks

4 armored reconnaissance cars

7 jeeps, 1 prime mover,

radio truck and other motor vehicles

25X1

6 SP guns, 1 truck occupied by uniformed women wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and 10

25X1 sidecar-motorcycles, passing through Stendal and proceeding in the direction of Gardelegen;

25X1 at 9:55 a.m., a troop train carrying 20 T-34 tanks

25X1

passing through Stendal and proceeding in the

25X1 direction of Gardelegen;

25X1 at 12:15 p.m., a troop train carrying 25 motor vehicles

25X1

passing through Stendal and proceeding in the direction of Gardelegen;

25X1 at 1:30 p.m., a troop train consisting of 2 boxcars with troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets, and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 16 T-34 tanks, 12 heavy artillery pieces,

25X1 which were howitzers, with a white triangular emblem

25X1 and 6 motor vehicles

25X1 departing in the direction of Gardelegen;

at 7:30 p.m., three troop trains were seen en route on the Tangerhuette-Denkendorf line.

23 September. At 6 a.m., a troop train consisting of 2 boxcars carrying troops, and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying

25X1 13 JS tanks and 8 motor vehicles

passing through Stendal and proceeding toward Gardelegen;

at 7:30 a.m., a troop train consisting of 2 boxcars occupied by

25X1 troops and an undetermined number of flatcars carrying 14 JS

tanks, 10 motor vehicles

25X1

and several 37-mm AA guns, passing through Stendal

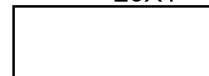
25X1 and proceeding in the direction of Schoenhausen;

SECRET

SECRET

25X1

- 3 -



25X1 at 11 a.m., a troop train carrying 25 small caterpillar tractors with attached guns [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted] passing through Stendal, proceeding in the direction of Gardelegen-Wittenberge;
 at 11:30 a.m., a troop train carrying motor vehicles, passing through Stendal in the direction of Gardelegen.

24 September. At 9 a.m., three troop trains left Stendal in the direction of Gardelegen in intervals of 5 minutes. *

25X1 [redacted] Comment. [redacted] 15 of the 38 military shipments observed carried 102 T-34 tanks, 27 JS tanks, 6 SP guns, 72 guns of various calibers and 6 rocket launchers. Three of these 15 shipments carried engineer equipment. [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted] There are some slight indications that these vehicles might have been assigned to the 18th Mecha Div and the 207th Mtz Rifle Div. Vehicles of the 34th Arty Div and the 32d AAA Div (US) were observed on two artillery shipments. [redacted] two tank shipments seen on 23 September has been observed only in the Templin training area so far. It probably belongs to the 25th Tank Div. It is believed that this series was misidentified, as there have been no indications that elements of this division moved from Templin to the Elbe River about 20 September. From available information it appears that elements of all divisions of the Third Shock Army started large-scale fall maneuvers in the area of Letzling Heath (northern section)-Rathenow-Havelberg about 23 September. It appears that artillery and AAA units of the IV Arty Corps also participated in these maneuvers. The vehicle convoys of units from Schwerin observed passing through Perleberg toward Bad Wilsnack on 18 September are probably connected with the troop movements mentioned in the present report. [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted]

SECRET